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TICH

TALLER INTER-CULTURAL HISPANO-AMERICANO

May 22, 2007

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Docket No. 07-16

Madame Secretary,

As an educator, I am writing you in support of Docket No. 07-16. Fast, free broadband service would help TICH's mission to teach students about their Latin heritage and culture. TICH is the acronym in Spanish for Hispanic American Intercultural Workshop, located in Tampa, Florida. We serve five dozen students per semester.

In a 2001 book about children of foreign-born parents - approximately 20 percent of American youth - the co-directors of the Harvard Immigration Project said that learning to be bicultural and function well in both worlds gives the child a better chance for success. Those who don't are more at risk of dropping out of school or joining gangs. And even if they become socially successful, they are more likely to alienate their families.

At the same time, The National Center for Education found only 52% of Latino students rate their education as positive while even less have access to the Internet.

Please pass Docket No. 07-16 and level the playing field on education for all students.

Regards,


Maria Esther Carrillo
TICH/Director

CC: FCC Chairman, Kevin Martin
FCC Commissioners: Copps, Adelstein, Tate, McDowell
Wireless Bureau Chief, Fred Campbell
Senator Bill Nelson
Senator Mel Martinez

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